

### University of Kent 'Your Kent Start' Terms and Conditions

This £2,000 financial support package forms part of the wider Your Kent Start welcome package for new Home undergraduate students commencing their studies at the University of Kent. Spread over the first two years of study, it gives Canterbury students £500 in their bank account and another £500 to spend in specified Canterbury campus outlets, and Medway students £500 in their bank accounts and a £500 digital voucher to spend in The Deep End at the Medway campus. It is **currently offered only for the 2026–27 and 2027–28 academic years**, although extending it to later academic years is being considered.

- 1.0 This information applies to new Home undergraduate students commencing a programme of study at the University of Kent.
- 1.1 Students who are in receipt of financial awards of £500 or greater (i.e. Kent Financial Support Package, Kent UKAT Ambition Scholarships, Kent Access to HE Ambition Scholarships and Kent Ambition to Succeed Scholarships) will not receive the additional cash bursary, but they will receive a £1000 food allowance. For Canterbury students this will be uploaded as a credit to the Time2Eat app to be used at participating food outlets on the Canterbury campus. For Medway students, it will be a digital voucher to be used at The Deep End at the Medway campus. This allowance will be distributed across the student's first two years of study and no additional Your Kent Start Financial Support Package benefits will be provided.
- 1.2 The Your Kent Start financial support package may be received in conjunction with University of Kent scholarships such as the Kent Sports Scholarship, Kent Music Performance Scholarship, and some subject specific scholarships. Exclusions may apply to other awards and specific University of Kent partnerships; please contact [scholarships@kent.ac.uk](mailto:scholarships@kent.ac.uk) for further advice.
- 1.3 All decisions regarding eligibility for the Your Kent Start financial support package will be made by the University and the decision of the University on eligibility is final. The University reserves the right to withdraw, amend or vary the support package at any time. However, any such withdrawal, amendment or variation shall not affect students who have firmly accepted an offer of a place prior to the date of the withdrawal, amendment or variation.

- 1.4 The University of Kent reserves the right to amend, suspend, or withdraw the Your Kent Start financial support package at any time where it is reasonably necessary to do so. The University will endeavour to provide notice of any material changes where practicable.
- 1.5 The Your Kent Start financial support package is available only to eligible students commencing their course from September 2026 onwards. Students who commenced their course before September 2026, including those who started in the 2025–26 academic year, are not eligible for the package and cannot claim the support retrospectively.

### **Eligibility criteria**

To be eligible for consideration for the Your Kent Start financial support package you must:

- 2.0 Have firmly accepted an offer for an undergraduate programme of study from the University of Kent, be fully enrolled and paying the maximum tuition fee. Students studying a degree with an integrated foundation year and who are paying the lower fee for the foundation year, will still be eligible for the package of support, but will have the award deferred until they start Stage 1 of their course.
- 2.1 Be assessed as 'Home' for fees purposes
- 2.2 Be a registered student at the University of Kent at the time of payment
- 2.3 The following students are not eligible for the Your Kent Start financial support package:
  - 2.3.1 Students who are from our partner institutions, Epitech and Beaconhouse International College, as special partnership arrangements are already in place.
  - 2.3.2 Students on courses where the tuition fees are lower than the maximum tuition fee, including students from franchise or associate colleges
  - 2.3.3 Students repeating the first year of their course
  - 2.3.4 Students entering an undergraduate degree directly into Year 2
  - 2.3.5 Students who complete the International Foundation Programme (IFP) and progress on to an undergraduate programme of study

- 2.3.6 Students who complete the Pre-Sessional English course and progress on to the IFP or an undergraduate programme of study
- 2.3.7 Students on courses validated by, but not taught by, the University of Kent
- 2.3.8 Students who have applied for Short-Term and Exchange programmes
- 2.3.9 Students applying to University of Kent International College (UKIC) programmes
- 2.3.10 Students applying for undergraduate study at Kent and Medway Medical School or Medway School of Pharmacy

### Terms and Conditions

- 3.0 Your Kent Start financial support package recipients must satisfy the Eligibility Criteria and the Terms and Conditions.
- 3.1 Your Kent Start financial support package recipients are required to be assessed as 'Home' for fees purposes and be commencing an undergraduate programme of study at the University of Kent.
- 3.2 Subject to continued eligibility, the Your Kent Start financial support package will be provided over a two-year period, with the £1,000 package allocated to Stage 1 and £1,000 allocated to Stage 2.
  - 3.2.1 **Cash instalments:** The 'cash' element of the Your Kent Start financial support package (to the value of £500) will normally be paid in December in Stage 1 and Stage 2 in the form of a bank transfer to a nominated bank account. It is the responsibility of recipients to provide the University with accurate bank account details. No actual cash alternative will be offered. It is non-transferable.
  - 3.2.2 **Campus Food for Canterbury based students:** The 'campus food' element of the Your Kent Start financial support package (to the value of £500) will be uploaded as a credit to the Time2Eat app in mid-October (Stage 1 and Stage 2). With the timing dependent on eligible students having provided all necessary information and registered/enrolled in a timely manner, in turn enabling the process to be administered to this schedule. The app can be used in the following Canterbury campus outlets only: Rutherford Dining Hall, Gulbenkian Café, Sibson Café, Hut 8, K Bar, Mungo's, Keynes Café & Kitchen, Create Café and Sports Café. The

University reserves the right to amend the participating outlets and the method by which the food allowance is provided.

- 3.2.3 **Campus food for Medway based students:** The 'campus food' proportion of the Your Kent Start financial support package (to the value of £500) will be issued as a digital voucher in mid-October (Stage 1 and Stage 2). With the timing dependent on eligible students having provided all necessary information and registered/enrolled in a timely manner, in turn enabling the process to be administered to this schedule. The digital voucher can only be used in The Deep End at the Medway campus. The University reserves the right to amend the participating outlets and the method by which the food allowance is provided.
- 3.2.4 The University of Kent is committed to tackling food insecurity and promoting access to healthy and affordable food through its Right to Food initiative. Students are therefore encouraged to use the campus food element of the Your Kent Start financial support package for food and non-alcoholic drinks. The University operates a Challenge 25 policy, and students under the age of 18 will not be able to purchase alcohol. More information about the University's Right to Food initiative can be found at [Right to Food](#).
- 3.2.5 Students on an accommodation contract for a room in Becket Court or Keynes College that includes a Meal Plan, or students who have purchased a Flex Meal Plan, will receive their £500 catering credit on a designated cashless catering payment card rather than through the Time2Eat app. Eligible students will be notified separately and provided with details regarding the issue and collection of their catering payment card. For further information, please refer to the [Time2Eat guidance](#).
- 3.3 The Your Kent Start financial support package will be applied automatically so there is no need for the student to make an application.
- 3.4 New part-time students starting in may be eligible for a pro rata financial support package. The value of the financial support available will depend on the student's level of study. To qualify, students must be studying a minimum intensity of 25% and meet the eligibility criteria. Applicants will be informed whether they have met the University's criteria for the financial support package once the University is in receipt of all relevant information. For any further information please contact [studentfunding@kent.ac.uk](mailto:studentfunding@kent.ac.uk)

- 3.5 Students who transfer to a course that does not meet the eligibility criteria will cease to be eligible for any unpaid element of the Your Kent Start financial support package.
- 3.6 Students who defer entry to a subsequent academic year will not normally be eligible for the Your Kent Start financial support package unless otherwise confirmed in writing by the University.
- 3.7 If a student withdraws before enrolment and registration, before payment, or where fees have been fully refunded, the Your Kent Start financial support package may remain available should the student subsequently enrol on an eligible programme and satisfy the eligibility criteria in force at that time. Students taking an approved temporary leave of absence will retain their eligibility on return, provided they do not repeat any part or year of their course. As per the [University Terms and Conditions](#), periods of intermission would not be granted for more than 12 months. Where a student withdraws completely from the programme of study the University of Kent may withdraw the Your Kent Start financial support package at its discretion.
- 3.8 Appeals relating to eligibility for the Your Kent Start financial support package must be submitted in the form of an email to [studentfunding@kent.ac.uk](mailto:studentfunding@kent.ac.uk) with the subject line of 'Your Kent Start Eligibility Appeal' by 31 May. Appeals received after this date will not normally be considered. The decision of the University following an appeal shall be final.
- 3.9 By accepting or receiving any element of the Your Kent Start financial support package, students are deemed to have accepted these Terms and Conditions. Any queries about Your Kent Start financial support package should be addressed to [studentfunding@kent.ac.uk](mailto:studentfunding@kent.ac.uk)
- 3.10 The University reserves the right to withdraw, suspend or recover any payment or benefit made under the Your Kent Start financial support package where it has been awarded on the basis of incorrect information, administrative error, or where a student is subsequently found not to have met the eligibility criteria.
- 3.11 The Your Kent Start financial support package cannot be held in conjunction with the Kent International Scholarship. Students assessed as 'Overseas' who are in receipt of the Kent International Scholarship and whose fee status is subsequently changed to 'Home' will have their scholarship withdrawn, as they may then become eligible for the Your Kent Start financial support package, subject to meeting the relevant eligibility criteria.

- 4.0 The University may process personal data for the purposes of assessing eligibility, administering the Your Kent Start financial support package, and preventing fraud. Further information is available in the [University of Kent's Privacy Notice](#).